

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05

PC-01 /118 W

-----016842 300136Z /75

R 290846Z JUL 78

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2563

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0912

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG

SUBJECT: SECURITY IN SOUTH SHABA TOWNS AT END OF JULY

REF: LUBUMBASHI 0816

1. SECURITY SITUATION REMAINS QUIET IN ALL SOUTH SHABAN COMMUNITIES. NONE OF THE PAN AFRICAN FORCES (PAF) HAVE BEEN PROBED SERIOUSLY BY FLNC. MOST OBSERVERS GIVE TROOPS CONTINUING GOOD MARKS FOR DISCIPLINE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

2. PAN-AFRICAN TROOP DEPLOYMENTS REMAIN AS LISTED IN REFTTEL WITH EXCEPTION OF TOGOLESE WHO NOW HAVE 100 TROOPS IN LIKASI AND 40 IN KAMBOVE.

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3. RELATIONS BETWEEN PAN-AFRICAN FORCE AND ZAIRIAN COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN GOOD, ALTHOUGH CONTACT IS VERY LIMITED. SHABA'S ZAIRIAN RESIDENTS ARE STILL OF MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT PAF PRESENCE. WHILE APPRECIATIVE THAT PAF OFFERS GREATER SECURITY AGAINST POSSIBLE OUTSIDE FORCE AND BETTER PROTECTION AGAINST HARASSMENT FROM THEIR OWN SOLDIERS, SOME INDIGNATION LINGERS. FEELINGS RANGE FROM EMBARRASS-

MENT THAT FOREIGN AFRICAN TROOPS MUST PROTECT THEM TO RESENTMENT THAT PAF PROVIDES CUSHION WHICH ALLOWS MOBUTU TO CONTINUE HIS UNPOPULAR RULE.

4. EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY WHICH NORMALLY THINS OUT DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIOD IS PRESENTLY AT LOWER LEVEL THAN IN MANY YEARS. PERHAPS 60 PERCENT OF EXPATRIATES FROM LUBUMBASHI ARE CURRENTLY ON VACATION ELSEWHERE. THE RETURN OF MANY OF THE WIVES AND CHILDREN FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR IN SEPTEMBER REMAINS UNCERTAIN. IF THE SECURITY SITUATION REMAINS QUIET AND THE PAN-AFRICAN FORCE REMAINS IN PLACE, LONG-TERM RESIDENTS BELIEVE THAT MANY OF THOSE WHO DEPARTED UNDER DURESS IN MAY AND JUNE WILL BE BACK IN SEPTEMBER.

5. NO WORD IN LUBUMBASHI YET ON DURATION OF PAF MISSION. SITUATION IS CURRENTLY STABLE AND NO HOSTILE FORCES KNOWN TO BE IN THE AREA. STABILITY, HOWEVER, REMAINS ONLY AT SURFACE LEVEL, DUE LARGELY TO PAF PRESENCE. NO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES ARE KNOWN WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN IMPROVED DISCIPLINE AMONG ZAIRIAN TROOPS OR GREATER POPULARITY FOR MOBUTU GOVERNMENT. BORG

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